



QUALITY DEDUCTING CONCERNS IN TEACHER EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

The overall development of a nation depends on Education. Being careless and lazy in maintaining the quality of education will lead to severe defects. Teacher Education plays a vital role while speaking about education, since teacher education is the course, which produces quality teachers to serve in the field of education. In this paper the author have listed out some of the open secret issues happening in the field of teacher education in Tamil Nadu and pointed out some remedies to overcome the issues.

KEYWORDS: Teacher Education, quality of education.

INTRODUCTION

Children of today are the pillars of tomorrow's bright full and potential world. Education is one of the biggest and most important tools for shaping the children. For quality education we need a well designed curriculum and importantly a well talented and potential teacher. Therefore Teacher Education Institutions has the major role in producing quality teachers. While they are producing potentially fully qualified teachers for the development of the nation, in turn those teachers will make the students in to a better one who was ready to face the challenges in the globalized world. But the sad thing is at present situation there are several issues which makes the Teacher education in to a weaker part which in turn affects the development of nation.

PROBLEMS IN SELECTION

The defect in selection procedure of students will lead to scarcity of quality teachers. To avoid that while selecting candidates their general knowledge, aptitude and subject knowledge should be tested. We can't say everyone but at current situation more number of students who scoring low and don't know what to do next was choosing teacher education. Since self-financing colleges were eager to fill up the seats alone not considering the ability of the candidate.

QUALITY TEACHER EDUCATORS

According to the UGC norms the basic qualification for working as a Teacher Educator (Assistant professor) is, the candidate should possess a P.G degree with M.Ed having minimum percentage of 55% and they must have cleared the UGC/CSIR NET or SET examination. In Tamil Nadu there are totally 713 self-financing B.Ed colleges (according to Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University report) but many of the colleges were running with faculties who doesn't qualify NET or SET examinations. This may reduce the quality in Teacher Education.

LACK OF SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

There is no possibility for improving or keep in touch with the basic subject knowledge in B.Ed colleges. The curriculum was alienated from the basic subject. After joining in school only they are getting exposed to the basic subject next to the training period.

SALARY OF TEACHER EDUCATORS

Another big issue in Teacher Education is the salary. In most of the colleges the basic salary for fresher is 6000/- and sometimes if they have experience they are getting up to 8000 / 10000. Even a child will do things perfectly if it get's appropriate rewards. These salaries put the Teacher Educator into stressful situations which may affect their working ability.

According to Tamil Nadu Minimum Wage with effect from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016 the basic wage per day of a

Sweeper in C class	=	274.38
Khaja Master	=	274.69
Appalam Manufactory	=	242.61

While comparing with this, the minimum wage per day obtaining by assistant professors in most of the private B.Ed colleges in Tamil Nadu is

Minimum 6000/mnth	=	200
Medium 8000/mnth	=	266.66
If 10000/mnth	=	333.33

There is no much difference between a C-class sweeper and an assistant professor working in private colleges in the basis of salary. There is no proper regulation for the salary of assistant professors working in private colleges. Such things will affect their professional commitment and job satisfaction. This may lead to quality deduction.

As an appreciating factor Kerala Government has fixed the basic pay scale for assistant professors working in self-financing colleges.

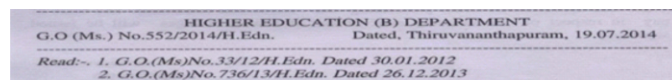


Fig 1: Kerala Government GO regarding basic pay scale for Assistant professors.

According to this GO those who possess UGC NET/ SET should be given the state scale pay of the equivalent post. Other faculty should be paid a minimum of Rs. 10000/-. Waiting to see when such things will happen in Tamil Nadu.

STUDENTS MADE OF ILLUSION

Another notable issue in teacher education is the illusion students. Its shame to say that many colleges (not all) they are admitting students under the category of irregular. Such students have to pay more fees than the normal students but there is no need for them to attend the class, they can directly attend the examination. Even if they are not ready to attend a class regularly for getting a degree what will be their quality while getting a job? Encouraging such things by some of the private colleges will reduce the quality in teacher education.

PSEUDO STAFFS

While B.Ed colleges were started to grow like a mushrooms everywhere NCTE puts some norms and regulations for such institutions. But those rules were like playing trumpet inside the ear of a deaf person. While NCTE started to evaluate the quality of such colleges they found a new strategy that's called illusion staff. Some of the colleges were sending the certificates of fully qualified person with NET/SET qualified to NCTE for getting permission. But if we visit the college none of the person in that certificate will work in that college. Now a day's some private colleges are started to borrow certificate from qualified person by giving money. They are not ready to appoint a fully qualified person because they will ask more salary, to avoid that colleges are buying certificate for rent from qualified persons and appointing low-qualified persons for job with low salary. There is a famous Tamil dialogue "Irukuaanaila, irukurathayveramathiriyairuku". Exactly like this certificates of some qualified persons will be there but that particular person won't be there instead of him someone else will be there. By doing such things the quality and dignity of Teacher Education is getting affected.

RUNNING LIKE SHOPS

We can't say everyone but many self-financing B.Ed colleges were running like a petty shop keeping money alone in mind. There are few colleges which gives leave to the staffs without salary while the students were going for training in schools. Some colleges give leave to staff without salary at the end of course till the reopening of college without considering what they will do for those months without salary. Till few years back there are many colleges which running in a rental building.

REMEDIES

- NCTE has to make surprise visits to ensure the quality of the colleges both in facility and faculty
- Institutions fail to meet up to the level of NCTE norms should be punished severely.
- Chances should be created to the student to practice with the present curriculum of basic subject followed in schools.
- Basic subject knowledge must be renewed often during the course.
- The basic pay scale has to be fixed for those who working in self-financing colleges
- Till now there are only 5 Government colleges in Tamil Nadu, it has to be increased.
- Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University has to take effective steps to stop admitting staff and students in an illusion way
- Surprise visit has to be conduct to all colleges in a district at same date and time.
- Unity should be maintained among the assistant professors working all over Tamil Nadu in self-financing colleges

CONCLUSION

Whatever discussed here is a well known fact to everyone. It is maintaining like an open secret, everyone knows but no one talks about it. Such issues will directly or indirectly affect the quality of Teacher Education which in turn affects the quality of school education which may affect the future pillars of our nation. The Government & Government bodies like NCTE and Tamil Nadu Teacher Education University has to take appropriate steps to overcome such issues and to maintain the quality in teacher education.

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